

Welcome to the Homeless Liaison list. This listserv is a communication between the SD-DOE State Homeless Coordinator and the school districts' liaisons. Periodically, you will be receiving a short newsletter pertaining to the education of children and youth experiencing homelessness. If you have questions or comments, please direct them to [Laura.Johnson-Frame@state.sd.us](mailto:Laura.Johnson-Frame@state.sd.us). Where it is appropriate, your questions and comments will be shared with all liaisons across South Dakota.

Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program  
Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act  
Amended by NCLB Act of 2001

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Children experiencing homelessness must be identified in SD SIMS Net. Under "Status Elements" you are allowed to identify a child as "Homeless," then in the "Value" drop down box you are allowed five options for the child's living condition. These options are listed below with their definitions.

Once a child is identified as homeless, that designation continues until the end of the school year, even if the child becomes permanently housed. Do not remove the child's designation. A re-determination is made at the beginning of the following school year.

**SD SIMS Net Definitions of Homeless**

**Unsheltered**

-a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; vehicles, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings. This also includes children or youth abandoned in hospitals or unaccompanied youth. (The term *unaccompanied youth* includes a youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. This would include youth living in runaway shelters, abandoned buildings, cars, on the streets, or in other inadequate housing and children and youth denied housing by their families -sometimes referred to as "throwaway" children and youth, - and school-age unwed mothers living in homes for unwed mothers, who have no other housing available.)

**Doubled up/ sharing housing**

-sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, unavailable housing, or a similar reason

**Hotel/Motel**

- living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations

**Emergency/Transition shelter**

-domestic violence shelters, homeless shelters, awaiting foster care placement, or short-term government/private assisted transitional shelters (usually 30-90 days) while waiting for more permanent shelter to become available

**Transitional Housing**

-government/private assisted housing for people who are ready to move beyond emergency shelter into a more independent living situation allowing them to further develop the stability, confidence, and coping skills needed to sustain permanent housing (services for as long as 2 years).

Need more information, call or write. Resources may be found at <http://doe.sd.gov/oess/title/homeless/> Thanks

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